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THE FCC'S PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES AMENDED SCHEDULE FOR FILING HURRICANE MARIA REPORTS IN THE DISASTER INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM

In coordination with the Department of Homeland Security's National Coordinating Center for Communications (NCC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is amending the schedule for communications providers to file reports concerning Hurricane Maria to its Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS).¹ This action will harmonize the FCC's reporting schedule for Hurricane Maria with those of the other agencies. Starting today, communications providers are asked to provide reports on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays by 10:00 a.m., rather than seven days per week. If there are major changes to the status of communications on other days, the FCC asks communications providers to supply that information directly to FCC personnel (see contact information below) as events occur. The FCC continues to be available to address emergency communications needs related to Hurricane Maria 24 hours per day, seven days per week.²

The FCC appreciates the cooperation of all the communications providers that have been voluntarily submitting data to DIRS since it was activated for Hurricane Maria on September 20, 2017. In disaster situations, information on the operational status of communications services provides critical situational awareness and supports effective emergency response and restoration efforts. The FCC requests DIRS reports for this unprecedented duration in order to continue monitoring restoration status. This amended reporting schedule, coupled with notification of any significant developments between reports, will provide the necessary situational awareness.

Accordingly, after today's status report for Hurricane Maria, the next status report will be published on Monday, November 20, 2017, and every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until DIRS is deactivated. These reports and other FCC releases related to Hurricane Maria are located at https://www.fcc.gov/maria.

Contact Information: John Healy of the PSHSB's Cybersecurity and Communications Reliability Division at (215) 847-8094 (<u>John.Healy@fcc.gov</u>) or the FCC Operations Center at (202) 418-1122 (<u>fccops@fcc.gov</u>).

¹ DIRS is a voluntary, web-based FCC system that communications providers, including wireless, wireline, broadcast, cable and Voice over Internet Protocol providers, can use to report communications infrastructure status and situational awareness information during times of crisis.

² See Federal Communications Commission Provides 24/7 Emergency Contact Information for Hurricane Maria, Public Notice, DA 17-910, rel. Sept. 20, 2017, available at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-17-910A1.pdf.